

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

**HON. BILL LUTHER**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 29, 1997*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2266) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mr. LUTHER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this amendment to freeze military spending at the fiscal year 1997 level.

Mr. Chairman, simply put, we must not allow our rapidly growing economy and the recent budget deal to justify avoidance of the tough decisions needed to secure the long-term financial health of our country.

The current budget deal is just the first step in restoring fiscal health to our Federal Government. Congress must continue to look for opportunities to cut spending and we cannot justify spending any more on the military budget than our own military experts believe is necessary. Unfortunately this bill includes over \$500 million for continued production of the B-2 bomber—money that the Pentagon did not request. It also contains millions of dollars for building new nuclear weapons such as the Trident D-5 submarine launched ballistic missile and the Seawolf submarine.

We have been elected to have the judgment, common sense, and courage to make the hard choices necessary to achieve a balanced Federal budget. Freezing military spending would demonstrate our collective commitment to getting our Nation's fiscal house in order.

Equally important, it will set the stage for asking the American people to make sacrifices in other important budget areas. It is much easier to discuss the idea of shared sacrifice with the American people when we can assure them that all Federal programs and agencies are facing the same budget constraints. The American people know it's wrong to ask them to share the pain of balancing the budget when one part of the budget—the military budget—continues to increase year after year.

So the bottom line is simple and we should know it by now—if we are serious about balancing the budget, it is essential that every Federal program and Federal agency share in the sacrifice—including the Department of Defense.

We need to maintain a strong military and an absolutely credible nuclear deterrent force but we must maintain that defense while keeping in mind the realistic threats facing our country. As a cosponsor of this amendment, I am asking my colleagues to change the way they think about military spending in the aftermath of the cold war. Times have changed and I am hopeful that this amendment will help us move into the future.

Let's show the American people that we really are committed to fiscal responsibility and apply the same belt-tightening to the military budget that we have applied to the rest of the Federal budget. I urge my fellow House Members to vote for this bipartisan amendment and freeze military spending at fiscal year 1997 levels.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF PAKISTAN'S INDEPENDENCE**HON. DAVID E. BONIOR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 1997*

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of Pakistan on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of their nation's independence.

Pakistan gained its independence on August 14, 1947, from the British, after 90 years of struggle to establish a homeland. In the 1930's, Dr. Allam Muhammad Iqbal and Quaid-e-Azam helped provide the vision for the people of Pakistan's goal of independence.

Today, Pakistan and the United States share many common interests. We both seek to promote and preserve democracy. We both seek to ensure that south Asia becomes a stable and peaceful region of the world. We are allies in peacekeeping efforts, and in programs to combat illegal drugs and terrorism. And our ties, strengthened by trade and investment, continue to grow.

These ties have also been strengthened by the friendship and understanding brought to us by Pakistani-Americans. Pakistani-Americans have contributed greatly to the advancement of knowledge and the enrichment of cultural life in the United States.

With this anniversary, we should strive to renew our commitment to cooperation on issues of mutual interest. Let us use the occasion to broaden and deepen the friendship of the United States and Pakistan for the benefit of the people in our two nations.

The people of Pakistan have made great advancements towards democracy, stability, and peace over the past 50 years. It is a solid foundation on which to build a lasting commitment to these ideals in the future.

TRIBUTE TO POINSATTE MOTORS  
AND FORT WAYNE, IN, FOR  
THEIR EFFORTS IN THE FIGHT  
AGAINST BREAST CANCER**HON. MARK E. SOUDER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 1997*

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Poinsatte Motors of Fort Wayne, IN, and the city of Fort Wayne itself for their outstanding local effort in the fight against breast cancer.

On July 9, 1997, Poinsatte Motors served as the Fort Wayne host for the Drive for the Cure sponsored by BMW and the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, the Nation's largest private funder of research focused solely on breast cancer. The citizens of Fort Wayne and the surrounding area were invited to test drive any 1997 BMW. In return, for each mile driven, BMW donated \$1 to the Komen Foundation with the goal of raising \$1 million nationwide to advance breast cancer research, education, screening, and treatment.

The community's response was overwhelming. Local businesses donated \$15,000 in TV and radio advertising, rentals, food and bev-

erages, and other supplies. With 284 test drives totaling almost 4,000 miles, Poinsatte Motor's Fort Wayne event ranks as the largest single-day event for Drive for the Cure to date. In fact, more than 360 people registered for the event—more test drives than could be accommodated in one day. Since July 9, remaining registrants, who have until December 1 to complete their test drives, have driven over 200 miles that will count toward Drive for the Cure's \$1 million goal.

Mr. Speaker, it is estimated that over 180,000 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer, and more than 44,000 will die of the disease, this year. If this horrible disease were detected and treated in its earliest stage, the mortality rate would decrease by 30 percent. In addition to raising much-needed funds for breast cancer research, Poinsatte Motors has contributed immensely to increasing awareness of the disease and the benefits of early detection. The people of Fort Wayne are well known for their willingness to assist others in need and to lend their support to a worthy cause. I am honored to represent these fine citizens, and I applaud them for their extraordinary accomplishment.

THE STATE RECIPROCITY IN PRO-  
FESSIONAL BOXING ACT OF 1997**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 1997*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the State Reciprocity in Professional Boxing Act of 1997, a bill that ensures that professional boxers under suspension in any State will not be able to fight in a professional bout anywhere else in the United States. The bill is intended to close a loophole in the Professional Boxing Safety Act of 1996, made compellingly visible by the disgraceful performance of Mike Tyson at the Las Vegas fight on June 28, 1997.

As we learned from our consideration of the Professional Boxing Safety Act of 1996, professional boxing is not only a brutal sport whose purpose is to cause serious physical harm to its participants; it has attracted corruption and organized crime influence for many years. Members who were responsible for shepherding last year's legislation, in particular Congressman MICHAEL OXLEY, Senator JOHN MCCAIN, and former Congressman Pat Williams, successfully addressed many of the most pressing problems of the sport. The country is particularly indebted to the path-breaking work by the Members of the House and the Senate who took the leadership in achieving the first comprehensive Federal legislation to protect the welfare of professional boxers and provide for appropriate oversight of the professional boxing industry.

I am introducing this legislation today because of the recent heavyweight match between Mike Tyson and Evander Holyfield in Las Vegas that stunned the world. Mr. Tyson viciously, deliberately, and inexplicably bit Mr. Holyfield's ear twice, during the third round of their heavyweight championship bout. On the second bite, Mr. Tyson bit off a part of the ear itself. Upon review of Mr. Tyson's actions, the Nevada State Athletic Commission unanimously disciplined him by revoking his boxing